



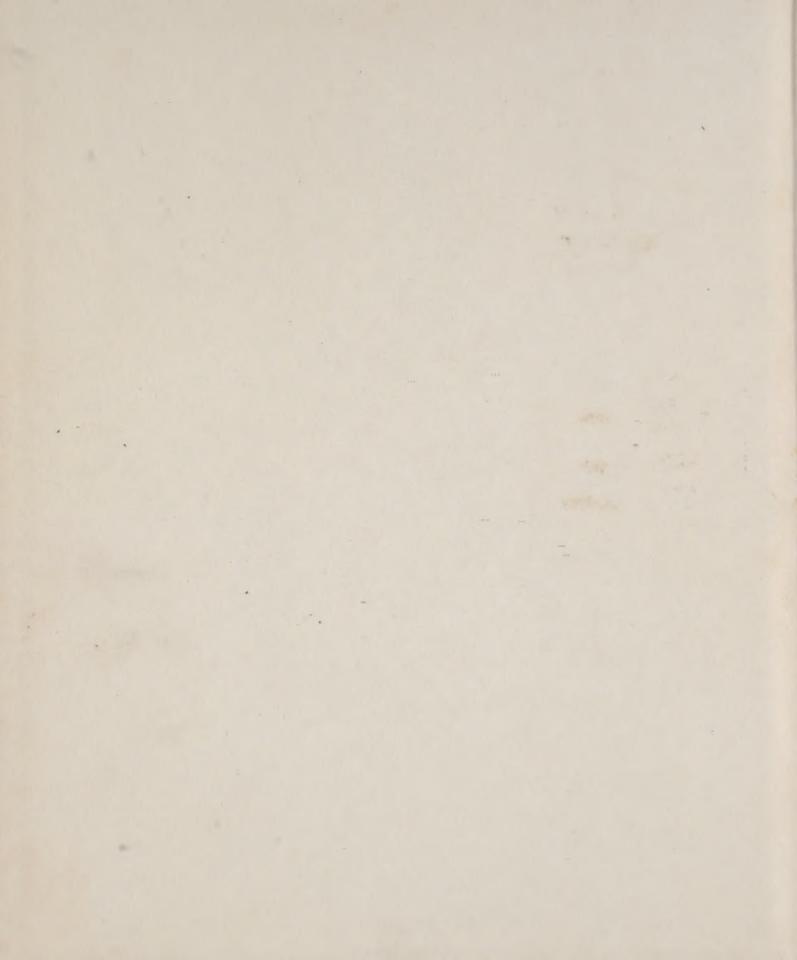
THEIR MAJESTIES VISIT TO MANITOBA





The Chester D. Cuthbert Collection





THEIR MAJESTIES VISIT TO MANITOBA

A pictorial record of the visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to the Province of Manitoba on May 24 and June 4, 1939

PRICE ONE DOLLAR

Compiled from pictures taken by Free Press staff and other photographers.

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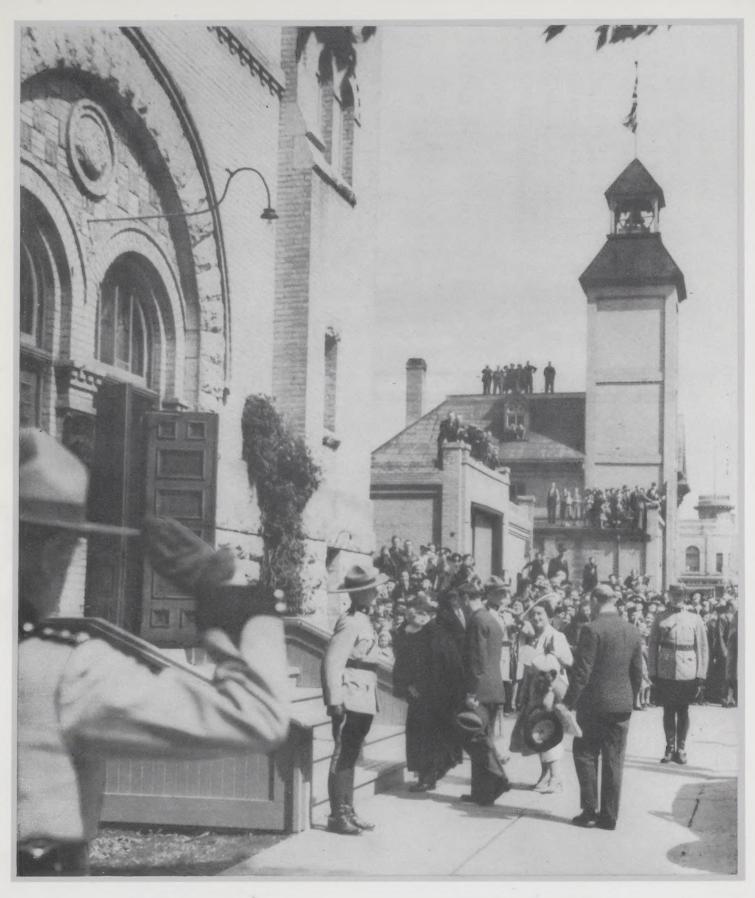
FOREWORD

The visit to Canada of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in the year 1939 was unique in British history. It was the first visit to this Dominion of a reigning sovereign of Great Britain. It was indeed gracious of Their Majesties to so plan their tour of Canada that it carried them from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It made the Royal Visit something that will live as long as life in the memory of the millions of Canadians who saw them.

It was on May 24 that the King and Queen first entered Manitoba. Rain fell that day—rain that meant much to this agricultural province. But it did not dampen the enthusiasm with which our Royal Guests were welcomed. It was a memorable day for Manitoba . . . a day made doubly important since it was from Winnipeg, the capital city of Manitoba, that His Majesty spoke by radio to the entire world. Included in the Royal itinerary was a visit to St. Boniface, across the Red River from Winnipeg. One of the highlights of the entire Royal Tour was the brief but brilliant greeting given by the people of Brandon as the Royal train sped westward.

On Their Majesties return from the West they stopped on the morning of Sunday, June 4, for divine worship at Portage la Prairie. Later about noon they paused again at Winnipeg to visit with the veterans of Deer Lodge Hospital, who gathered at the Canadian National Railway Depot.

Both May 24 and June 4 then were most important occasions. It is fitting they be kept more vividly in mind with some of the views that were taken by various photographers. In this book an attempt has been made to select from over a thousand photographs, pictures that give a step by step story of the visit of Their Majesties to the Province of Manitoba. It is hoped this pictorial record may serve in years to come as a pleasant reminder of a happy and historic event.



On Sunday, June 4, the King and Queen attended divine service at the United Church, Portage la Prairie. This Free Press photo by August H. May shows them entering the church.

JOYOUS CITY THUNDERS ITS SALUTE

By Francis Stevens

Sunlight broke through dark clouds as the King and Queen arrived in Winnipeg Wednesday and passed down the spacious avenues of our city to the Legislative Building. I defy anyone to contradict me. The sun already was shining in the hearts of the waiting thousands, and when King George and Queen Elizabeth came, it broke through the rain in cheers and smiles and waving hands like pure gold.

As Their Majesties' car swung south from Portage Avenue into Memorial Boulevard, I was sure I saw a rainbow and the foot of the rainbow rested on the Cenotaph. There come times when the inner eye perceives the truest things of all, and this was one of them.

As the Royal train pilot, heralding the coming of the blue and silver train of Their Majesties, passed from the rugged land of rock and pine east of Kenora, and ran out upon the broad green lands of the emerging prairie, we were saying to one another, "This is where the West begins."

The fields of sprouting wheat seemed to be drinking eagerly of the gentle rainfall, and the sight of that gift from the heavens somehow banished the gloom that came when we arose to be greeted by a dark, moist day. For we know that the King and Queen have been making a real study of Canada, and that they would appreciate how much moisture means to the prairies in the springtime.

Besides, the King and Queen feel at home in the rain like everyone else from the Old Country. They know how to take it.

Not long after arriving in Winnipeg, after viewing the guard drawn up at the Canadian Pacific Railway Station and making a rapid survey of the waiting crowds along Main Street and Portage Avenue, I revised the idea that this is where the West begins. The West begins east of Winnipeg, and when you go out Portage Avenue, believe me, you certainly are out WEST.

There was something about the good nature of the waiting crowds, something about the look of things that sang of the West and of the prairies and of a great fertile land opening out under a wide sky beneath which horizons show far away. After Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, one understands this all the better.

Perhaps I'm a bit prejudiced in favor of the home town, and with reason, for it seems to me that the crowds waiting for hours in the rain at Winnipeg were the best natured, most carefree multitude of all the hundreds of thousands of people I have seen since the Royal Tour started at Quebec.

"Singin' in the rain" is the only way to describe it, and the Great War veterans guarding the way led in the singing.

Other cities on the tour can match us in the beauty of decorations in honor of the King and Queen, but none can surpass us; and we have something others lack—wide avenues that set off the colorful display in a matchless way. As I walked out Portage Avenue to Memorial Boulevard and then looked south to the Legislative Building, I realized the truth of that.

It was at this point, where Memorial Boulevard sweeps south from Portage Avenue, I stood when the cry swept along Portage: "They're coming!" We saw the gold helmets and red coats and the beautiful horses of the troop of Lord Strathcona's Horse, drawing closer down the wide avenue, and the cheers rang nearer and nearer.

It was the sight of the open Royal car in the light rainfall that electrified the throngs that had been expecting a closed car as a matter of course, considering the weather. The Queen held her little black umbrella like a gay gesture of defiance to the skies. She held it high and her manner was that of a bright day, and the King in his navy uniform, like a true sailor, saluted the crowd without benefit of umbrella.

The fronts of the large department stores were like great gateposts festooned in welcome, Eaton's with a huge crown, the colors of all the jewels in the crown of Britain and a great brilliantly tinted coat-of-arms beneath, and the Hudson's Bay with the shields of all the provinces of the Dominion on its facade. Those pictorial emblems of the Canadian provinces seemed to illuminate the street.

Best of all in its setting for historical drama was the beautiful vista south on Memorial Boulevard, past the Cenotaph, with the classic portico and soaring dome of the Legislative Building filling in the background.

The Royal cavalcade moved south on Memorial Boulevard toward the Cenotaph, and all the red banners along the boulevard with their initialled monograms of George and Elizabeth, blended in the perspective southward, a glorious massing of banners. No other city on the tour has matched this scene. It was a Royal aisle or banner-sheathed pathway along which the King and Queen moved toward the testimonial of loyalty from the Manitoba Government.

The King and Queen had come and gone, but the crowds remained, the elderly women who had waited for hours, the bare-headed boys with raindrops glistening in their hair, the guard of Great War veterans, all the varied multitude whose hearts had spoken in cheers to the man in the navy uniform and the woman with the little umbrella . . . Canada's King and Queen.



Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth step off the Royal train on their arrival at Winnipeg, May 24. Free Press pool photograph.



The King and Queen emerge from the C.P.R. Station to be welcomed by cheering thousands of citizens. Facing Their Majesties is Lieut.-Col. O. M. M. Kay, O.C. Winnipeg Grenadiers. Hon W. J. Tupper, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, stands at the right of Queen Elizabeth. Free Press photo by Harry Steel.





Above—His Majesty inspects the Guard of Honor. The Winniped Grenadiers (M.G.) at the Canadian Pacific Railway Station-Free Press photo by Harry Steel.

Left—As the Royal Party Leave the C.P.R. Station along Higgins Avenue towards Main Street. Free Press photo by Harry Steel.



Above—Following the Royal Party along Main Street, several military and band units parade. Brigden photo by $\mathit{Wm. Webber}$.

Right—Their Majesties arrive at the Winniped City Hall and are welcomed by His Worship Mayor John Queen. Free Press photo by August H May.

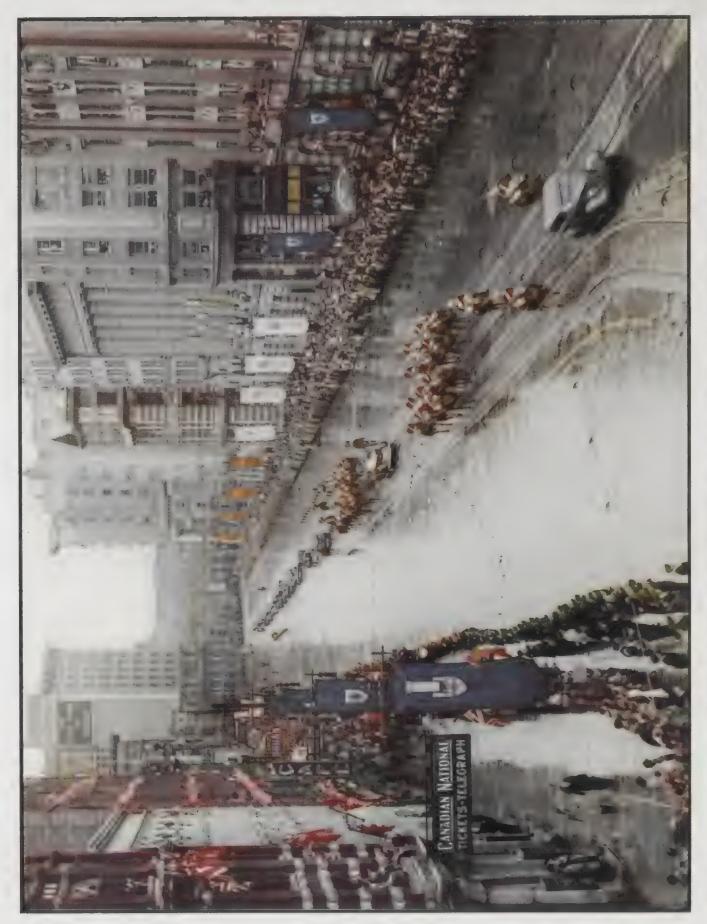






Above—The downpour of rain does not lessen the warmth of Winnipeg's welcome. Thousands stood or sat for hours, as did this group at the City Hall awaiting the arrival of Their Majesties. Free Press photo by August H. May

Left—The King signs Winnipeg's visitors book. He experienced some difficulty because two fingers had been slightly injured that morning. Free Press photo by August H. May



ALHOLGH THERUNGAST A DAMPRESS TO THE COLOR OF THE ROYAL PROCESSION, IT STILL WAS A BRULLAND SPECIACLE AS IN SHOWN BY THIS KOLOR PROTOCRAPH TAKEN FOR THE FREE PRESS ON MAIN STREET WEAR PORTAGE AVENUE. WINNIPEG. COLOR photo by Brigders—Maurice Lyall



Their Majesties proceed towards the Manitoba Legislative Building along Memorial Boulevard—Photo by John Haney



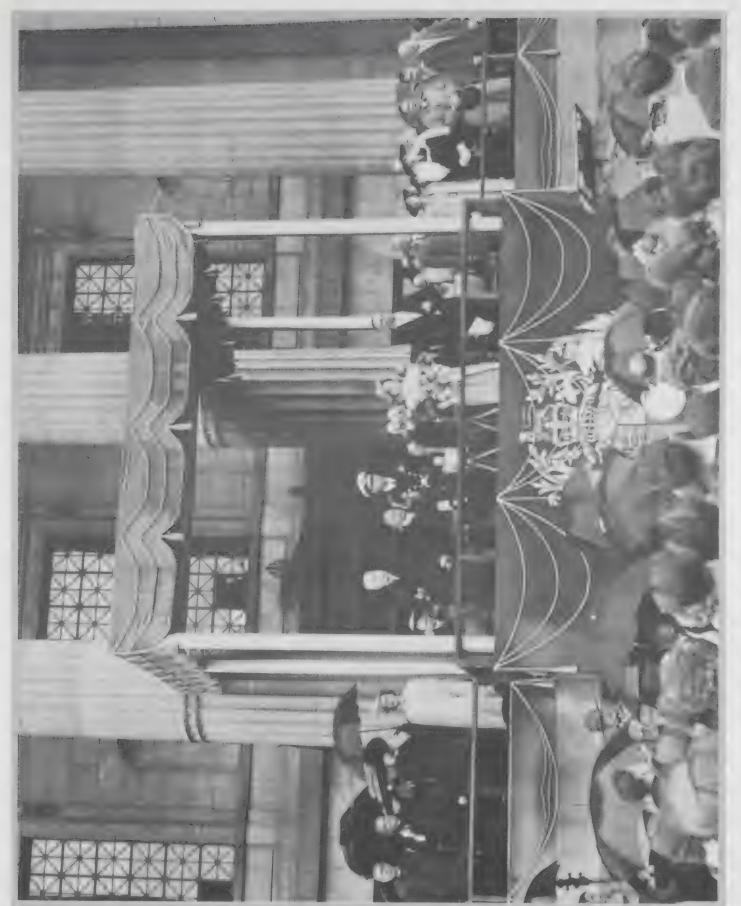
After the Royal procession had passed, thousands swarm along Memorial Boulevard to the Legislative Building for the public reception by the Government of Manitoba. Free Press photo by D S G. Portigal.



Arriving at the Legislative Building, Premier and Mrs. John Bracken meet Their Majesties as they step from the Royal, car. Free Press photo by Harry Steel



Their Majesties descending the great steps of the Manitoba Legislative Building. The King accompanied by Premier John Bracken walk ahead, and the Queen with Hon. W. J. Tupper follow a few steps behind. Brigden photo by H. Richardson.



BUILDING RECEPTION -- MANITOBA'S WELCOME TO THEIR MAJESTIES AS THOUSANDS SING "GOD SAVE THE KING," AT THE CLIMAX



Above—In Manitoba's Legislative Chamber, Their Majesties receive Government officials, their wives and distinguished cuests. This picture was taken as Her Majesty received Miss Ethel A. Kinley, leader of the Winnipeg Metropolitan High School Choir, whose choral anthems were part of Manitoba's welcome to Their Majesties.

Right—Her Majesty signs the distinguished visitors book after King George.

Both Brigden photos by H. Richardson.





The Queen stops to chat with Thomas B. Chettle, Secretary of the Manitoba Division of the Amputations Association, who, together with some eighty members of the Association formed an unusual guard of honor in the Legislative Building.

Free Press pool photo.



Above — The Royal Party Prepare to Leave the Legislative Building for Govern-MentHouse. Free Press photo by Harry Steel

RIGHT — THEIR MAJESTIES IN THE ROYAL CAR. ACCOMPANIED BY LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE (R.C.), ENROUTE TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE Photo by Gordon A Stovel





"DO NOT LOSE HEART"

A King speaks to his people. In his radio address to his 500,000,000 subjects within the British Empire, the King spoke as follows:

"Today is Queen Victoria's birthday, as well as Empire Day; and I am glad that I can speak to you on this day amid surroundings eloquent of the Empire's achievement since Queen Victoria was born. Winnipeg, the city from which I am speaking, was no more than a fort and hamlet upon the open prairie when Queen Victoria began to rule. Today it is a monument to the faith and energy which have created and upheld the world-wide Empire of our time. The journey which the Queen and I are making in Canada has been a deeply moving experience, and I welcome this opportunity of sharing with my subjects in all parts of the world some of the thought and feeling which it has inspired in me.

"We often talk of the old world and the new. It is one of the greatest services of the British Empire that it serves to link and harmonize the two. That part of the British realm which lies in Europe and in Asia looks back upon many centuries of civilized life and growth. That part of it which lies in America, Africa and the two great sister nations of Australia and New Zealand has made its place in world society within the last hundred years. For a long period in history it was the mind of Europe which led the march and fixed the aims of progress in the world. But that tide of inspiration is no longer running as it did in times gone by. The Christian civilization of Europe is now profoundly troubled and challenged from within. We are striving to restore its standards; though the task is long and hard. Asia, too, is changing fast, and its mind is deeply disturbed. Is not this a moment when the old world in its turn might look for hope and guidance to the achievements of the new?

"There is one example in particular which North America can offer to other parts of the world. A century ago, when Queen Victoria began her reign, a great constitutional struggle was in progress in the Canadian provinces. But soon after that time the provinces of Canada achieved responsible self-government. Freedom and responsibility led them gradually to compose their differences and to cement this noble federation from sea to sea. The sense of race may be a dangerous and disruptive force, but English and French have shown in Canada that they can keep the pride and distinctive culture which it inspires, while yet combining to establish a broader freedom and security than either could have achieved alone.

"Nor is that the only chapter in North American history that deserves consideration. Canada and the United States have had to dispose of searching differences of aim and interest during the past hundred years; but never has one of those differences been resolved by force or by threat. No man, thank God, will ever again conceive of such arbitrament between the peoples of my Empire and the people of the United States. The faith in reason and fair play, which we share with them, is one of the chief ideals that guides the British Empire in all its ways today. It is not in power or wealth alone, nor in dominion over other peoples, that the true greatness of an empire consists. Those things are but the instrument; they are not the end or the ideal. The end is freedom, justice and peace in equal measure for all, secure against attack from without and from within. It is only by adding to the spiritual dignity and material happiness of human life in all its myriad homes that an empire can claim to be of service to its own peoples and to the world.

"I would end with a special word of greeting to those of my listeners who are young. It is true—and I deplore it deeply—that the skies are overcast in more than one quarter at the present time. Do not on that account lose heart. Life is a great adventure, and every one of you can be a pioneer, blazing by thought and service a trail to better things. Hold fast to all that is just and of good report in the heritage which your fathers have left to you, but strive also to improve and equalize that heritage for all men and women in the years to come. Remember, too, that the key to all true progress lies in faith, hope and love. May God give you their support, and may God help them to prevail."





Above—Their Majesties with motorcycle escort of the R.C.M.P. Just after leaving Government House for the afternoon tour of Winnipeg. *Photo by Gordon A. Stovel.*

Left—ALL ALONG THE ROYAL ROUTE CHILDREN THRILL TO THEIR FIRST GLIMPSE OF KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH. Free Press photo by D. S. G. Portigal.



The Royal procession swings off Assiniboine Avenue on to Osborne Street Bridge. The King examines his injured fingers, while the Queen displays interest in her first climpse of the Assiniboine River. $Brigden\ photo\ by\ H.\ Richardson$





Above—Along, Wellington Crescent where many had a close, though brief, view of Their Majesties. Photo by Scott Morrison

Left—Some of the older, though equally enthusiastic people, who wait along Wellington Crescent for the Royal procession to pass. Free Press pholo by Henry A. Provisor.



Above—In one of the city parks where thousands line the Royal route to cheer their King and Queen. Free Press pool photo.

Right—Three old men occupy preferred positions along the Royal route. Brigden photo by ${\it Wm\ Norrie}$







Above—One of the impromptu ceremonies connected with Their Majesties visit to Polo Park was an Indian presentation of a peace pipe. Free Press photo by Frank K. Royal.

Left—Philip H. Godsell. Adopted Chief Spirit Bird of the Crees, with Indians of the Cree, Sioux and Ojibway tribes, who met Their Majesties at Polo Park. Photo by P. H. Godsell



Above—Their Majesties leave their Royal car to stroll through Polo Park, where more than eight thousand rural school children were gathered. Free Press photo by Frank K. Royal.

Right—One of the many groups of school children who had travelled to Winnipeg to see Canada's King and Queen. Free Press photo by Henry A. Provisor





Mounties, Queen Elizabeth, King George and Chief Constable George Smith of Winnipeg, as they stroll through the cheering thousands of school children at Polo Park. Photo by Miss E. Isabel Gray



Above—A particularly good photo of Their Majesties as the Royal car passes over Salter Street bridge Photo by Geo E. Haeberle.

Right—The Royal car circling in front of the Winnipeg General Hospital. Photo by Gordon W. Chandler







Above—The Royal car enters Kildonan Park, where again thousands of school children have awaited Their Majesties $Brigden\ photo\ by\ Wm.\ Norrie.$

Left — One of the visiting bands, whose presence added much color and thrilled the waiting children in the parks $Brigden\ photo$ by $Wm.\ Norrie$



King George VI and Queen Elizabeth leave for St. Boniface, sister city of Winnipeg, across the Red River Free Press photo by August H. May.



Left—Their Majesties are welcomed to St. Boniface in front of the City Hall by His Worship Mayor George C. MacLean Photo by John Dan Hindle.

Below—His Majesty signs the guest book of St Boniface. Free Press photo by Frank K. Royal





Their Majesties enter the Royal car to leave St. Boniface City Hall and continue the Royal tour $Free\ Press\ photo\ by\ Frank\ K.\ Royal$



THEIR MAJESTIES AS THEY MOTOR THROUGH ST. BONIFACE. Free Press photo by Frank K. Royal



Patrick Ashley Cooper, Governor of Hudson's Bay Company, reads an address to His Majesty at Upper Fort Garry Gateway, during the presentation of two black beaver skins and two elk heads to His Majesty, in payment of rent in accordance with the terms of the Company's Royal Charter Color photo by Briggers—Maurice Lyall.



Above—Final Inspection in Winnipeg of the guard of honor at C.P.R. depot—Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve and Royal Canadian Air Force. Brigden photo by W.m. Webber

Below—On Arrival at Brandon Their Majesties inspected a special guard of honor of War Veterans
Photo by Jerrett's Photo-Art Studio





Above—Part of the thousands of children that greeted Their Majesties at Brandon under floodlights. The whole setting caused comment by both Their Majesties and the Press—"The most wonderful sight we have seen." Photo by $R,\,M,\,Coleman.$

Right—Their Majesties thrill to the Brandon welcomp Photo by R. M. Coleman







Above—Their Majesties meet His Worship Mayor Fred H Young and Mrs. Young of Brandon. Photo by $R.\ M.\ Coleman.$

Left—The King and Queen wave farewell to Brandon. Photo by Jerrett's Photo-Art Studio



Above—King George VI and Queen Elizabeth step off the Royal train June 4 at Portage La Prairie $\ Free\ Press\ photoby\ Henry\ A.\ Provisor$

Right—His Majesty decorates two veterans, Arthur Kitson and William Peden. Free Press photo by Henry A Provisor







Above—Their Majesties drive to church at Portage La Prairie. Photo by $Gordon\ A.\ Stovel.$

Left—A closeup view of the King and Queen as they proceed towards the United Church. Free Press photo by Henry A. Provisor



Above—The Royal party leave the church after divine worship. Photo by $\mathcal S.\ Thor\ Melsted$

Right—Their Majesties bid parewell at Portage La Prairie, $Free\ Press\ photo\ by\ Henry\ A.\ Provisor.$







Above—The Royal train as it leaves Portage La Prairie and speeds on eastward. Photo by Gordon A. Stovel

Left—His Majesty with Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada and Hon. John Bracken, Premier of Manitoba on Arrival at Winnipeg, June 4. Free Press photo by Frank K. Royal.



Deep emotion is registered on the faces of the King and Queen as the camera catches them off guard chatting with patients of Deer Lodge Military Hospital. Photo by John M. McEachern, M.D.





Above—The King and Queen chat with patients of Deer Lodge Military Hospital at a specially arranged reception. Behind Their Majesties, left to right, are Prime Minister Mackenzie King, Dr. A. R. Taylor and Major J. P. Oliver of the hospital staff. Free Press photo by Frank K Royal.

Left.—The Queen converses with some patients in wheel chairs Photo by John M. McEachern, M.D.



Above—Throughout the reception the King and Queen mingle freely with war veterans of the hospital. Free Press photo by $Frank\ K.\ Royal.$

Right—A last farewell to Manitoba. Premier Bracken, Mrs Bracken and Mayor John Queen on the station platform prior to the Royal train's departure. Free Press photo by Frank K. Royal.







Above—"Good-bye Manitoba." Photo by Don Collman

Left—Children Placing coins on the track so that the Royal train would give them a personal souvenir. Photo by Gordon A. Stovel



THE ROYAL TRAIN PASSING ALONG THE HIGH EMBANKMENT FACING WHITTIER PARK, WHERE THOUSANDS HAD CATHERED FOR A FINAL FAREWELL DEMONSTRATION OF MANITOBA CITIENS TO THEIR MAJESTIES. Color photo by Brigdens—Maurice Lyall.

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